

REMARKS

In the present application, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, and 16-20 are pending. In this response, claims 1, 6, 12 and 13 have been amended to put them in a better condition for allowance. Further, claims 2, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, and 21-29 have been cancelled, while claims 30-42 were previously withdrawn.

In the Office Action mailed March 10, 2006, the Examiner indicated that claim 2 was allowable. In response, Applicant has simply amended claim 1 to include the subject matter previously contained in claim 2. Similarly, claim 2 has been canceled. In light of these changes, Applicant requests acceptance of these amended claims and allowance of the present application.

Anticipation and Obviousness Rejections are Moot

As discussed above, the presently pending claims have simply been amended to include subject matter the Examiner previously indicated as allowable. Based upon these amendments, all previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103 are moot in light of these changes.

All Remaining Objections and Rejections are also Moot

In addition to the claim issues discussed above, the drawings submitted on January 9, 2006, were objected to as allegedly claiming new matter. These drawings were added in light of claims 5 and 21, which have now been cancelled. In light of these claim cancellations, these drawings and the related proposed changes to the specification are hereby withdrawn.

With regard to the Restriction Requirement outlined in the office action, Applicant has canceled claims 14 and 15. Similarly, the objectionable subject matter in claim 13 has also been removed. In light of these changes, any issues related to the restriction requirement are now moot.

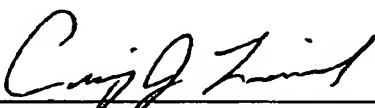
Lastly, claims 23-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. These claims have similarly been canceled.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing comments, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable. Applicant requests that these claims be passed to issuance.

In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at 612-607-7387. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees including fees for any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901 (Reference No. 13996-357).

Respectfully submitted,

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